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----- STAMPS OF INDIA COLLECTORS COMPANION -----
The News, Views, & Features on Philately & Postal Services of India
Issue # 287 - May 3, 2007. Published Every Thursday
Edited by Madhukar and Savita Jhingan

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JHINGANS JOTTINGS

Hi

Until next week, please enjoy the rest of the newsletter.

- M&SJ

Our thanks to the Contributors and Sources to this issue: Deepak Modi,

We invite your inputs, please email to [writeback@stampsofindia.com](mailto:writeback@stampsofindia.com)

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If you've found this newsletter useful, recommend it to a friend.
Better still, forward a copy of this issue. Also, please mention this
newsletter when contacting other philatelists.

Report the philatelic activities in your area for publication here. We
shall reimburse the costs incurred on images, philatelic items issued,
publications, courier and other agreed charges.

Please send your queries in detail (images welcome) on all matters related to Philately and Postal History of India and Indian States. We will attempt to find an answer for you.

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

FORTHCOMING STAMP ISSUES

No Dates Announced Yet - National Parks Set of 5 is expected next issue

New issues along with the First Day Cover and the information sheet, at Rs 2 each, are put on sale on sale at nearly 1000 selected Post Offices including all Philatelic Bureaus and Philatelic Counters in India.

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2007, please visit  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/2007stamps.htm>

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NEW STAMPS RELEASED

India Post released a set of six commemorative postage stamps in the denomination of Rs 5 each, on Gautama Buddha on May 2, 2007.

The stamps depict a statue from the Gandhara period when Buddha was a prince; a sculpture from Myanmar where he is an ascetic, a meditating Buddha image from Sarnath, Bhumisaparsha Buddha holding the nectar of immortality in a jar, incarnations of Buddha, and Lotus - a Hinayana Symbol and Dharma Chakra.

Bharti Mirchandani designed the Stamps and the First Day Cover. Alka Sharma designed the pictorial first day postmark. Brochure containing write-up and technical data was issued on the occasion. The First Day Cover and the Brochure are priced at Rs 2 each. India Security Press, Nasik printed the stamps by potogravure in the quantity of 0.6 million each. The Miniature Sheet was printed in the quantity of 0.4 million.

For an illustrated list of stamps in 2007, please visit
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/stamps/2007stamps.htm>

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NEW POSTAL STATIONERY

Following Meghdoot post cards with advertisement were recently released:

Indian Oil Xtramile Super Diesel, Hindi  
State Bank of India - Farmers Credit Card, Hindi  
Maximum Retail Price, Punjabi  
Happy Deepawali, Tamil

The grand total till date is now 370.

The complete illustrated list of Meghdoot Post Card is available at:  
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/meghdoot.htm>

For an illustrated list of all kinds of Postcards in 2007, visit  
<http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2007PC.htm>

For an illustrated list of all kinds of Envelopes in 2007, visit  
<http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2007EN.htm>

For an illustrated list of Aerogramme & Inland Letter in 2007, visit  
<http://stampsofindia.com/lists/2007ILC.htm>

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RECENT SPECIAL POSTMARKS & COVERS

Nawanagar Philatelic Society, Jamnagar brought out two picture post cards on April 1, 2007 to mark the 50 years of Decimal currency. These beautifully produced cards are priced at Rs 40 per set.

For an illustrated list of Special Postmarks & Covers in 2007, visit
<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/pmk/2007pm.htm>

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ARMY POSTAL SERVICE ISSUES

Further to our report in Issue #284 of March 22, 2007 we now have more information on the newly launched product, the Field Postal Orders.

These are available in 6 denominations, Rs 2,000, Rs 3,000, Rs 5,000, Rs 10,000, Rs 15,000 and Rs 20,000. The commission chargeable per postal order is Rs 30, Rs 30, Rs 50, Rs 60, Rs 80, and Rs 90 respectively. Thus the collector aspiring for a set needs to fork out Rs 55,340 about Euro 1,000 (US\$ 1350)!!!

The primary purpose in introducing this product was to provide a convenient, safe, and economical method to the soldiers especially those on duty in remote areas, for remitting money home.

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/lists/pmk/aps/2007aps.htm>

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NEW COLLECTOR PACKS

This is to clarify that only the 2004 FDC pack is available now at the Philatelic Bureau, New Delhi and the remaining packs as reported in the previous issue are expected to be available in a month's time. The 2004 FDC pack is being sent from New Delhi to all bureaus.

Since last year the making of collectors pack of stamps, not FDC, is decentralized and each Philatelic Bureau prepares its share of packs. Thus it will be available at different dates at different Philatelic Bureaus.

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AUCTION ACTION

Harmers <http://www.harmers.com/> is holding an auction sale on May 22, 2007 at London. It has some interesting Indian items.

Undoubtedly the star attraction is an incredible block of sixty (10 x 6) of the 1854 'Prepared For Used But Not Issued' 9½ Arches ½ anna Deep Vermilion, the rare shade, the lower half of the sheet with marginal inscriptions and Plate number 1 at right, unused without gum. It has a red oval 'Received Via Southampton 3 JUL 1854' handstamp on the reverse. It is cataloged at £84,000+ and estimated here at £50,000.

An unused block of ten (5 x 2) from the lower-left corner of the sheet in Vermillion is estimated at £5,000.

An unmounted mint example of King George V Re 1 Head Omitted, a very striking variety, with BPA certificate (1994) and a Catalog value of £5,000 is estimated at £1,750.

There are two Red Scinde Dawks estimated at £4,000 and £10,000, a White Scinde Dawk at £1,000, 1855 1 anna Die III horizontal strip of 4 used in 1857 on a cover to Brighton at £1,250, Jammu & Kashmir 1879 ½ anna Bisect on combination cover to Amritsar at £3,000, and Jind 1882 ½ anna Feudatory issue used in combination with British India on a cover to Bombay at £1,000.

1948, Mahatma Gandhi issued stamps 1½ anna, 3½ anna and 12 anna singles, and Rupees 10 block of four, affixed to Helio Courvoisier page with what is described as a previously unrecorded italic Specimen overprint, is estimated at £5,000. This appears to be the same item that is illustrated on page 184 in the Gandhi Handbook by Manik Jain and Mrinal Kanti Roy where it described as Printers specimen. This Specimen handstamp in our opinion has nothing to do with Courvoisier but has been added by some unscrupulous person to enhance its marketability.

David Feldman & the Courvoisier Archives

At least one postal administration has raised objections to recent sale of the Courvoisier Archives by the Feldman. Although Feldman in smartly drafted letter described these items as technical proofs that postal administrations may allow printers to keep, it is still open to interpretation regarding ownership and their disposal. Dr Ottaviano Rossi, Director of Azienda Autonoma di Stato Filatelica e Numismatica, Republic of San Marino wrote to David Feldman on April 18, 2007.

Feldman were also careful by not selling the Swiss and Liechtenstein section of the Courvoisier Archives. Let's watch the developments.

For viewing India 1948 Mahatma Gandhi proofs from the Courvoisier Archives, visit

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/newssite/newspost/287-plus.htm>

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PHILATELIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dayanidhi Maran, Minister of Communications & Information Technology extended the term of the Philatelic Advisory Committee by one year from February 22, 2007. PAC normally is constituted for a two year term.

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RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS

May 5-7, 2007: Pune, MAHARASHTRA VAIBHAV

Organizers: The Numismatic society of Maharashtra.

Venue: Shri Chattushringi Seva samitee's Sanskruti Bhavan

Smt.Chandrakala Kihorilal Goyal Sabhagruha, 1st Floor, S.No.

106A/2A/8A, Chattushringi, Senapati Bapat Road, Shivaji Nagar, Pune

Time: 10:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.

May 4-6: Kolkata, STAMP FAIR

At Amar Chambers, 2 Church Lane, Opp NICCO House, Near Bankshal Court

Contact P C Jaiswal, President, Indian Philatelic Traders Association,

Mobile - 0 98315 98560

For a list of exhibitions in 2007, please visit

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/events2007.htm>

MEETINGS

The schedule of meetings of the philatelic organizations in India is available at <http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/clubmeet.htm>

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PHILATELIC EXHIBITS ONLINE UPDATE

Following new exhibits relating to India have been added at EXPONET online philatelic exhibition:

Deepak Jaiswal USA - Britisch Indien, Kaiserreich Epoche Queen Victoria
Generalausgaben 1882-1901

Steven Zwilling (USA) - Indian Court Fee Issue Of 1904

Visit <http://www.exponet.info> for viewing

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RECENT PHILATELIC PERIODICALS

SIPA Bulletin

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ADVERTISEMENTS

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3. The maximum size acceptable is 5 Lines of 64 characters per line.

4. All ads shall be published at the sole discretion of the editors who reserve the right to refuse any advertisement.

5. Stamps of India does not endorse any advertiser and can not be held liable for transactions of any advertiser.

RMS POSTMARKS

Can any subscriber to Stamps of India help me to obtain current cancellations of the Railway Mail Service of India, or tell me how I can obtain them? CHRIS BARTLETT chrisbartlettgorsley@tiscali.co.uk

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READERS FORUM

<Dear Reader, Your feedback is important to us as it helps evolve the newsletter. Please send us have your thoughts and suggestions.>

CA CHANDRASEKHAR, New Delhi

Thank you very much for your excellent venture. After a long gap I have been able to get in touch with my old hobby, thanks to you and your website. I should also not forget to thank my friend Mr Manu Mayank, who introduced me to your website.

ZULAIHA MOHAMED

I agree with Jaydev Nansey. There are so many varied topics, events, very many personalities etc that have not been depicted in our stamps. On the other hand, there have been repetitions galore, some of which I cannot understand the reason for. It is alright to commemorate a century but why 25th, 50th and sometimes 60th years! This applies to some of the personalities too

Is there any announcement of the forthcoming Indian stamps for 2007, while we have British philatelists grumbling about the royal mail not releasing the 2008 program!!

I searched all over in the net, but could not find any notes or write up about the recently released India stamps on women's empowerment and last years on child labor. What do each of the stamps depict.

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FEATURES & RESOURCES

Indian Laws Relevant to Philately

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/laws.htm>

Report Cyber Crime & Internet Fraud related to Indian Philately

<http://www.stampsofindia.com/infobase/cybercrime.htm>
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NEWSSCAN

<We invite you to contribute clippings on philatelic and postal matters, from other print and electronic publications, for inclusion here>

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ADMINISTRIVIA

'Stamps of India Collectors Companion' is published by Madhukar Jhingan [mjhingan@yahoo.com](mailto:mjhingan@yahoo.com) for 'Stamps of India', 49-D, BG-5, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi 110063. Phone: +91-11-25281578, Mobile: +91-9350537037  
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<http://www.stampsofindia.com/siteguide/w04.htm>

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STAMPS OF INDIA <http://www.stampsofindia.com>

The Hub Site of Indian Philately

PRINCELY STATES REPORT <http://www.princelystates.com>

Journal of Indian States History, Philately & Numismatics

STAMPS ON INDIA <http://www.stampsonindia.com>

The site devoted to the stamps from all over the world on Indian topics

INDIAN POSTAL GUIDE 1869

The first issue of the official postal guide, reprinted by Stamps of India 2004, 236 pages, hardbound, enlarged from original octavo to A4 size, limited edition, Special price - Rs 2750 post paid worldwide. Credit cards accepted <http://www.stampsofindia.com/99999.htm>  
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